



U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20207

CPSC 6 (b)(1) Cleared
No Mfrs/Prvtlbrs or
Products Identified
Excepted by
Firms Notified,
Comments Processed.

LOG OF MEETING

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH TOY MANUFACTURERS OF AMERICA AND
COMMISSIONER MOORE
DATE OF MEETING: October 15, 1996
PLACE: CPSC HEADQUARTERS/ROOM 714
LOG ENTRY SOURCE: PAMELA L. WELLER
DATE OF ENTRY: NOVEMBER 25, 1996
COMMISSION ATTENDEES:

COMMISSIONER THOMAS H. MOORE
PAMELA L. WELLER, COUNSELOR TO COMMISSIONER MOORE
MICHAEL GOUGISHA, COUNSELOR TO COMMISSIONER MOORE

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES:

DAVID MILLER, PRESIDENT OF TOY MANUFACTURERS OF AMERICA
AARON LOCKER, GENERAL COUNSEL OF TMA
MAUREEN CISLO, PRODUCT SAFETY LETTER

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

Mr. Miller requested the meeting to discuss: (1) industry efforts to achieve harmonization of safety standards under NAFTA with Mexico and Canada, as well as with the European Community and the International Standards Organization (ISO); (2) continuing industry efforts to ensure safe toys; and (3) CPSC participation at the 1997 Toy Fair.

Mr. Miller indicated that he thought the U.S. was losing some of its momentum in the harmonization area. He said the industry was at ground zero in dealing with Mexico and moving slowly in Canada. With respect to Canada, the industry wanted to "trade up" in all aspects of standardization, that is, take the most stringent standard of either country. He said that there had been a change in leadership in Canada which had resulted in Canada producing a huge document on the differences between the toy standards in both countries. The discussions which had been at the industry level were now being conducted government to government, with industry out of the loop. Mr. Miller said he thought the discussions needed to be elevated to a higher governmental level. He noted that two-thirds of the Canadian toy companies were owned by U.S. companies. Mr. Locker stated that the standards of the two countries were actually very close.

Mr. Miller noted that there will be a meeting of the ANSI technical committee on toys for the first time in eleven years.

With regard to the Europeans, Mr. Miller said the industry was also proposing to take the most stringent standard in each case. He said that the ISO meetings were closed and the U.S. had no voice in them; that the European Union had 15 votes to our one. Commissioner Moore noted that the ISO has a problem with enforcement. Mr. Locker said that they have no enforcement as we know it; they have to go through the local courts of the various countries. Mr. Locker also indicated that the standards of individual countries are put into ISO without the input of the U.S.

Mr. Miller gave Commissioner Moore copies of publications distributed to pediatricians, among others. One was a guide to toys for blind children. Mr. Miller indicated that the Safe Kids organization was helping to distribute the publications.

In response to a question from Commissioner Moore, Mr. Miller said that approximately 80% of all toys sold in this country are made outside of the U.S. Mr. Miller told the Commissioner that he would send him additional data on international production of toys as well as industry proposals for global safety standards.

Mr. Miller said he hoped to see the Commissioner at the Toy Fair next year.

The meeting ended with Commissioner Moore thanking Mr. Miller and Mr. Locker for coming by.